Gallbladder herniation after minimally invasive cardiothoracic surgery

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A 79-year old male with lung nodules on chest computed tomography underwent video-assisted thoracoscopic-surgical middle lobe wedge resection, with pathology proven adenosquamous carcinoma. Repeat video-assisted thoracoscopic-surgical-biopsy was performed for recurrent disease. Subsequent staging computed tomography revealed herniation of the gallbladder through the abdominal wall (Figs 1 and 2), a rare complication after minimally invasive surgery.

Figure 1: Axial non-contrast-enhanced computed tomography image of the chest showing herniation of the gallbladder through the lateral abdominal wall (arrow).

Figure 2: Coronal non-contrast-enhanced computed tomography image of the chest showing herniation of the gallbladder through the lateral abdominal wall between the eighth and ninth ribs, with the presence of radiopaque material in the gallbladder fundus, thought to represent aggregated gallstones (arrow).